

2 Recommendations

Item No. Foo3 2017 Five Year (2017-2021) Financial Plan – Utilities and Other Self-Funded Programs
File: 1705-05

That Council:

1. Approve the recommendations outlined in Section 2.0 of Corporate Report Foo3; and
2. Direct staff to prepare the 2017 Five-Year (2017–2021) Financial Plan for each of the Water, Sewer, Drainage, Solid Waste, Parking and District Energy self-funded programs, respectively, incorporating the recommendations as contained in Corporate Report Foo3.

Item No. Foo4 Community Grants for 2017
File: 1850-20

That Council:

1. Approve the 2017 City Grants as recommended by the Grants Evaluation Committee and as documented in Appendices "I", "II" and "III" attached to Corporate Report Foo4; and
2. Amend Appendix IV regarding the "Lookout Emergency Aid Society", specifically to reflect that the funds outlined are to be allocated to the program supporting "Street Youth Services" as contracted by Fraser Health.

Present:

Councillor Gill - Chair
Councillor LeFranc
Councillor Starchuk
Councillor Villeneuve
Councillor Woods
Mayor Hepner

Absent:

Councillor Hayne
Councillor Martin
Councillor Steele

Staff Present:

City Clerk
City Manager
City Solicitor
General Manager, Engineering
General Manager, Finance & Technology
Manager, Financial Services
General Manager, Human Resources
General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture
General Manager, Planning & Development

A. PRESENTATION BY THE GENERAL MANAGER, FINANCE & TECHNOLOGY

The Manager Financial Services provided an overview of the Finance Committee reports regarding Utilities and Other Self-Funded Programs and 2017 Community Grants as follows:

Foo3 - 2017 Five Year (2017-2021) Financial Plan – Utilities and Other Self-Funded Programs

- The water-metering program serves 59% of single family dwellings and all commercial and industrial use. Due to increases in the Greater Vancouver Water District (GVWD) water rates, there will be a \$7.42 per/year increase for a single-family residence which equates to an approximate increase of \$0.62 per month.
- The water rate will be increased by \$12.96 per year for the average single-family dwelling which equates to a flat rate of \$2.42 per month for residential customers. A flat rate charged to those who do not have a water meter will reflect the new rate increase. The GVWD bulk water rate will increase by 3.5 cents per year.
- The 2017 sewer rate will increase \$1.27 per month and will result in \$15 per year for the average single family residence and 7.04 per month or \$84.48 per year for a business that discharges 1,600 cubic metres of sewage per year.
- The Drainage Parcel Tax is currently \$216 per lot. The drainage parcel tax will increase by \$5.00 per lot to support increased maintenance and capital costs in relation to the City's drainage infrastructure to \$221 for residential and \$359 for commercial properties.
- Waste diversion and illegal dumping targets will be developed through a comprehensive work plan coupled with enforcement efforts. The City will implement a \$4.00 rate increase, bringing the solid waste rate to \$287 for the average single-resident family.
- Revenue generated from parking helps to reduce debt financing. The rates will remain unchanged for 2017 at \$75.00 per month for general staff parking, \$130 per month for reserved staff parking and \$1.50 per hour for public use.

- 2017 Surrey District Energy (SDE) - Commercial high-rise buildings will connect; the levy and the charge will produce an effective rate to meet the BC Hydro benchmark. It will be 3.5% increase which equals \$2600 for a standard single-residential unit. This rate increase would result in an annual cost increase of \$26 for a 65m² (700 square foot) residential dwelling unit that consumes an average of 6.8 MWh/year of energy.

In response to a question from Council staff clarified that there are significant infrastructure demands placed on utilities and the increases are due to enhancements needed to improve infrastructure and servicing and that throughout Metro Vancouver; overall system maintenance is required and those associated costs are passed down to municipalities.

Foo4 - Item No. Foo4 Community Grants for 2017

- Each year Council provides support to non-profits and low-income residents through a number of granting opportunities. Each of the programs is described in detail within Corporate Report Foo4. Staff noted that the City provides over \$5.2 Million in community support through various granting programs.
- In 2016, the City received 68 grant requests that were broken down into various categories. Each request was evaluated through the granting policy and City policy and was adjudicated through the Grant Evaluation Committee. Based on recommendations, there will be a further \$19,000 available in funding to address grant requests that come through now, until the end of year that have not been included within the report.

Council clarified that over \$2 Million is provided to residents through recreation facilities and a unique program to the City of Surrey, there is nothing else like it in British Columbia and it is one of the best Social Programs available in the Community.

Mayor Hepner requested clarification regarding the on-going grants. Staff noted that \$19,000 is available for future allocation and that those funds are not considered as part of the Council initiatives funds, but are separately administered.

Mayor Hepner requested clarification regarding the "Lookout Emergency Aid Society" and whether or not those funds are contract based as Fraser Health is looking to find a new vendor. Staff advised that it is not under contract, it is under an award, and it would be at the discretion of Council as to whether they wish to support an alternative provider.

The Chair noted that an amendment will be needed when Corporate Report Foo4 is deliberated.

B. PUBLIC CONSULTATION

D. Jack, President, Surrey Environmental Partners: The delegation expressed the following concerns:

The Green Infrastructure Network can be considered deemed "utility" because it is funded by living utilities and is made up of a complex system of hubs and corridors.

The City of Surrey must protect water as a resource due to the rich wildlife surrounding the City and in support of the valuable Nicomekl Rivers.

Residents of Surrey are water conscious and many have elected not to water trees on the boulevards, because it is a direct cost to them. The delegation requested Mayor and Council to consider implementing incentives to encourage residents to water trees and preserve the network of the tree canopy.

Trees are important to the City as a natural resource. When creating the storm water management plan, consideration should be given to the fact that water run-off goes into the drains, creeks, streams and rivers, leading to serious consequences and bank erosion due to flooding. Therefore, it is important to protect trees as they help to mitigate rainfall and provide a valuable natural resource for the community.

Dumping Fees should be reviewed and it should be made easier for residents to dispose of unwanted goods, particularly large items. Making it easier for residents to dispose of unwanted items would mitigate unwanted dumping in City Parks, ditches and other areas, which inevitably causes issues for local wildlife.

In terms of waste disposal, consideration should be given to better management of the dog waste disposal within the City of Surrey, particularly in parks; it is an issue that blue bags are not disposed of correctly or responsibly. More creative and environmentally sound solutions could be explored in this regard.

That delegation noted that green conservation programs provide essential "utilities" to the City.

C. CORPORATE REPORTS

1. The Corporate Reports, under date of November 21, 2016, were considered and dealt with as follows:

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The City Manager and the General Manager, Finance and Technology were recommending approval of the recommendations outlined in the report.

It was Moved by Councillor LeFranc
 Seconded by Councillor Starchuk
 That the Finance Committee recommend
 that Council:

1. Approve the recommendations outlined in Section 2.0 of Corporate Report Foo3; and
2. Direct staff to prepare the 2017 Five-Year (2017–2021) Financial Plan for each of the Water, Sewer, Drainage, Solid Waste, Parking and District Energy self-funded programs, respectively, incorporating the recommendations as contained in Corporate Report Foo3.

Carried

Item No. Foo4 Community Grants for 2017
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The General Manager, Finance and Technology was recommending approval of the recommendations outlined in the report.

It was Moved by Councillor Woods
 Seconded by Councillor LeFranc
 That that Finance Committee Recommend
 that Council:

1. Approve the 2017 City Grants as recommended by the Grants Evaluation Committee and as documented in Appendices "I", "II" and "III" attached to Corporate Report Foo4; and
2. Amend Appendix IV regarding the "Lookout Emergency Aid Society", specifically to reflect that the funds outlined are to be allocated to the program supporting "Street Youth Services" as contracted by Fraser Health.

Carried

D. ADJOURNMENT

It was Moved by Councillor Villeneuve
 Seconded by Councillor Hayne
 That the Finance Committee meeting do
 now adjourn.

Carried

The Finance Committee adjourned at 3:28 p.m.

Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

Councillor Gill, Chairperson